FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 APRIL 1983

Schultz Tour - Lebanon

Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Cairo on 25 April and met with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak the following day, according to MENA reports. Meanwhile, "knowledgeable circles" in Damascus cited by Radio Monte Carlo indicated that the Syrian leaders will be ready to receive Shultz and listen to his views although this does not mean that Syria is changing its basic position on current issues. Noting that Shultz is scheduled to meet Israeli leaders on 27 april, Jerusalem television said the tripartite negotiations at Khaldah and Netanya will be resumed only after Shultz' visit. Earlier, Jerusalem radio reported that the delegates at Khaldah had prepared a document for Shultz outlining the disagreements between Israel and Lebanon. While revealing that some difficulties were overcome at the 25 April Khaldah talks, the Lebanese delegation spokesman underscored his side's adherence to President Amin al-Jumayyil's view that while Lebanon wants an agreement it is determined that this should not be harmful to it, according to remarks broadcast by Beirut radio. A high-level Lebanese source said Shultz' diplomacy will accelerate the negotiations but will not be able to overcome all obstacles and reach a "radical solution," Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Secretary Shultz will be received in Israel with "friendliness and warmth," especially since he has struggled within the Reagan administration against pressuring Israel to soften its positions and since he was the one primarily responsible for the U.S. decision to release to Israel the data necessary for the production of the Lavi aircraft, Israel's YEDIOT AHARANOT declared. In a different vein Israeli Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon accused the United States of "clearly and continuously" trying to stop Israel from obtaining "full achievements" in the negotiations with Lebanon. The Americans are doing this in order to link Lebanon with "Judaea and Samaria," Sharon was quoted by Jerusalem radio.

While diplomatic activity and comment focused on Shultz' Middle East tour, tension continued in the Al-Biqa' valley as a result of renewed exchanges of fire, numerous Israeli overflights, and further military preparations by the IDF and Syrians, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Damascus radio cited TASS on new IDF tankdeployments in the area. In a separate development, the Voice of Lebanon said the 18 April U.S. Embassy bombing was aimed at a meeting of U.S. intelligence officials, adding "it is feared that collusion existed between elements within the embassy and quarters affiliated" with a certain state's intelligence service.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Summit Postponement -- The emergency Arab summit has been postponed until Secretary Shultz concludes his visit to the region, Moroccan sources cited by WAKH revealed on 26 April.

Arab Contacts — Saudi King Fahd received Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Riyadh, SPA reported. Meanwhile, the Jordanian foreign and information ministers delivered messages from King Husayn to the YAR president and the amir of Bahrain, according to Amman television and WAKH.

PLO Affairs

The Fatah Central Committee resolved to uphold the principle that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people and that the Fes summit peace plan is the "minimum limit" acceptable to the Palestinians, a Palestinian source cited by KUNA disclosed. According to KUNA, diplomatic observers in Tunis considered the outcome of the Fatah meeting as indicating that the current stalemate in the PLO-Jordanian dialogue will continue. Nevertheless, PLO information official Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman said the Fatah meeting focused on the "coming resumption" of Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported. A Palestinian source cited by Radio Monte Carlo likewise revealed that the Fatah Central Committee agreed to revive the PLO-Jordanian talks.

West Bank

U.S. health experts have concluded that the recent illness which affected Arab girls in several West Bank areas was primarily the result of "psychogenic factors," the Israeli Health Ministry director general announced at a news conference broadcast by Jerusalem radio. The fear of poisoning may have been sparked off by some girls' accidental exposure to hydrogen sulfate, the official noted.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi in Nigeria — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Lagos at the start of a 4-day visit to Nigeria, Lagos radio noted.

Search of Planes — The search of the Libyan aircraft in Brazil was the result of "flagrant CIA interference and influence," JANA asserted in a report on the Brazilian authorities' search of transport planes which stopped over in Brazil en route to Nicaragua.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi aircraft attacked military targets deep inside Iran, scoring direct and effective hits, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio announced. Tehran radio said two Iraqi planes bombed residential areas of Pol-e Dokhtar, southwest of Khorramabad, killing or wounding "scores" of civilians.

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News Conference Reportedly To Be Held in Moscow

LD231422 Kuwait KUNA in English 1256 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, April 23 (KUNA) — A press conference will be held at the Embassy of Afghanistan in Moscow next Tuesday, it was reported here Saturday.

The press conference, which will be attended by Soviet and foreign press correspondents, will deal with the Afghani problem in addition to the current talks held between the foreign ministers of Afghanistan and Pakistan in Geneva under the patronage of the United Nations secretary general's representative.

It is assumed that the Afghani foreign minister will attend the press conference to clarify his country's opinion on the (?submitted) issues during the Geneva talks.

Afghani President Babrak Karmal held a press conference in Moscow last year in which he talked of his government's stance toward the Soviet forces' presence in Afghanistan and called for international guarantees to protect his country's borders in return for the withdrawal of Soviet forces.

Reportage on Recent Fighting, Casualties

DAILY TELEGRAPH Report

PM251205 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 25 Apr 83 p 4

[Hugh Davies dispatch: "Jets Bomb Village in Reprisal"]

[Text] Islamabad — In what appears to be a ferocious Soviet-led anti-guerrilla offensive in Afghanistan, jets have strafed and bombed a hill-top village killing 64 of the inhabitants, according to reports from Kabul yesterday.

Government aircraft hit targets around (Sapar) in Nangarhar Province, a Pathan stronghold south-east of the Hindu Kush, close to Pakistan. The spot is close to (Karkhail), where a prominent mujahidin commander, (Mawlawi Abdul Maleen), died in fighting last week.

Details of the attack came in the wake of heavy casualties suffered by rebels in north-West Afghanistan outside Herat, near the Iranian frontier. Strafing of suspected guerrilla positions was followed by grounds assaults.

The crackdown, seeming one of the most intense since the 1979 Russian invasion, is in retaliation for a series of rebel raids. At the weekend, a Soviet "adviser" was apparently killed in a machine-gun attack on Khowst air base, south of Kabul.

Rebel sources also claim that on Saturday their forces successfully beat off another attempt by troops to regain control of a police station at (Bari) encircled by guerrillas. There was said to be casualties on both sides, with at least two rebels killed.

Exact evaluation of the warfare is difficult. Propaganda is widespread and many accounts are laced with exaggeration. The Islamic Alliance of Afghan mujahidin is claiming that 300 men were killed as they listened to a speech by a provincial governor at a village in Laghman Province.

Soviet tanks reportedly surrounded the crowd and moved in on a given signal. The armour "physically crushed all the persons" the rebels said.

It does appear the rebel groups are sorting out their differences and moving towards some form of unified command structure.

Karachi on Herat Offensive

BK260750 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, several hundred people, mostly civilians, were killed in a major offensive launched by Soviet and Karmal soldiers in Herat Province. The offensive involved more than 5,000 Soviet soldiers and armored and commando units of the Karmal Army, backed by the Air Force, the reports added. Almost half the buildings of the town sustained damage from artillery fire and bombardment by the Soviet and Karmal soldiers; 35 neighboring villages were destroyed.

The mujahidin reportedly shot down 6 helicopters and 2 MIG fighters and damaged 35 tanks and other heavy vehicles. A number of Soviet and Karmal soldiers were reported to have been killed in the mujahidin attack.

Meanwhile, reports say that the mujahidin attacked reinforcement convoys of Soviet and Karmal soldiers, which were en route (Barai Chowki) from the central Paktia area of Khowst. The mujahidin captured two tanks which were in (?running) condition. Besides this, they also damaged more than 10 tanks and military vehicles with rockets and mines.

Downing of Soviet Plane

BK251544 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan,the mujahidin shot down a Soviet plane north of Kabul on 17 April. The plane, which was flying in the vicinity of the military airports of Kabul and Bagram to locate mujahidin bases, crashed near (Kalghan) of (Karabagh) subdivision of Kabul.

Meanwhile, Soviet military authorities are finding it difficult to control the situation in Qandahar as conflict between Khalq and Parcham factions [of the Afghan People's Democratic Party] has assumed proportions of armed confrontation.

AFP: 500 Killed

BK260404 Hong Kong AFP in English 0401 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Islamabad, April 26 (AFP) — At least 500 people have been killed in the northwestern Afghan city of Herat and nearby towns since the start of a Soviet offensive two weeks ago, several sources linked to Afghanistan's rebels said here on Monday.

But the Afghan Jami'at-e Eslami Party issued a communique here asserting that 1,500 civilians were killed in air raids on Herat and 35 towns and villages. The communique said 170 mujahedin (Islamic fighters) were killed and that 5,000 Soviet soldiers were engaged in the offensive.

The sources said that Herat, a city of 100,000 people, was nearly half destroyed and that air raids were still continuing as recently as April 22.

Western diplomats had already reported a week ago that Herat had been heavily bombed in the second week of April during a large-scale drive by Soviet and Afghan troops toward the Iranian border.

Many villagers including the wounded have fled to Iran, said resistance sources who have been in telephone contact with Mashhad, Iran.

Soviet and Afghan troops had started to occupy part of Herat after bombardments of neighbourhoods infiltrated by the rebels.

It is possible that the Russians trapped the rebels by letting them infiltrate into Herat during the winter and then by launching MIG raids on them.

Commander Alludin, a former Afghan officer who has become one of the main resistance chiefs in the west, said in Islamabad two months ago his fighters were concentrated in villages west of Herat. But he said they were not able to engage in big operations against Soviet-Afghan forces mostly in camps outside Herat.

During the winter, said Alludin, planes made periodic raids on Herat Province from the Soviet Union and from a base at Shindand, Afghanistan, 100 kms (60 miles) south of Herat.

Delegations Arrive for Anniversary Celebrations

Hungarian Delegation

LD252305 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] The Hungarian delegation led by Janos Borbandi, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] Central committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Kabul today for the celebrations of the fifth anniversary of the glorious April Revolution. 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, member of the PDPA Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; the deputy minister at the Foreign Affairs Ministry; deputies of the Party International Relations Department; and the Hungarian ambassador in Kabul welcomed the delegation at Kabul International Airport.

Cuban Delegates

LD252303 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] A Cuban delegation, headed by Antonio Perez Herrero, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, arrived in Kabul today to participate in the celebrations for the fifth anniversary of the glorious April Revolution.

The delegation was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Zohur Razmjo, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Kabul city party committee; Sakhi Daneshjo, deputy foreign minister; deputy heads of the Central Committee International Relations Department; representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Protocol Department; and the Cuban ambassador in Kabul.

Iraqi Justice Minister

LD252309 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Dr Mundhir Ibrahim ash-Shawi, minister of justice of the Republic of Iraq, is heading a delegation which arrived this afternoon in Kabul to take part in the celebrations for the fifth anniversary of the glorious April Revolution.

Justice Minister 'Abdol Whab Safi; Deputy Foreign Minister Sakhi Daneshjo; and Iraq's ambassador in Kabul welcomed the delegation at Kabul airport.

Polish Delegation

LD252315 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Kazimierz Barcikowski, Politburo member and secretary of the Polish United Workers Party, arrived in Kabul today at the head of a delegation to participate in the celebrations of the fifth anniversary of the glorious April Revolution.

At Kabul International Airport, the delegation was welcomed by Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Politburo member and PDPA Central Committee secretary; deputy heads of the Party International Relations Department; deputy minister and deputy chief of protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and the Polish ambassador in Kabul.

Bulgarian Official

LD252253 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Stoyan Karadzhov, chairman of the Control Commission of the Bulgarian Communist Party, heads a delegation which arrived in Kabul today to participate in the celebrations of the fifth annniversary of the April Revolution.

At Kabul International Airport, the delegation was welcomed by Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communications; Sakhi Daneshjo, deputy foreign minister; deputy heads of the Party Central Committee International Relations Department; deputy head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Protocol Department; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Kabul.

CSSR Delegation

LD260610 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0447 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Kabul, April 25, BAKHTAR: A Czechoslovak delegation headed by Peter Colotka, member of Presidium of the Central Committee of Czechoslovak Communist Party, deputy premier of that country and prime minister of Slovak arrived in Kabul today.

The visiting delegation is here to participate in the fifth anniversary celebration of April Revolution.

Firearms Licenses Suspended in Assam Districts

BK260307 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The Assam Government has suspended all firearms licenses granted to individuals in eight districts for 3 months. The districts are: Goalpara, Darrang, Kamrup, Lakhimpur, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, and Karbi Anglong.

A notification issued in Gauhati has directed all license holders to surrender their licenses and deposit the arms and ammunitions in their possession to the concerned police stations within 15 days. It said that the suspension of licenses became necessary in view of the threat to peace and stability resulting from wanton use of firearms in certain parts of the state.

Official sources said one hand-made 12-bore gun was recovered from a person in (Becharapadhoy) in Darrang District. They said miscreants set fire to 10 thatched houses in (Bartala) village under the Bijni police station in Goalpara District. A wooden bridge was also set on fire at (Boro Bazar).

Meanwhile, a seven-member good-will mission sponsored by the National Convention of Assam has stressed the need for formation of peace committees at various levels for rehabilitation of the people affected in the recent disturbances. After a weeklong visit to different parts of the state, the convenor of the mission, Mr (O.P. Kolay), appealed to the intelligentsia in Assam to help people to restore harmony and a feeling of brotherhood.

Policeman in Punjab Shot From Golden Temple

BK260351 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The Punjab Government has decided to give a state funeral to Mr A.S. Atwal, the deputy inspector general of police, Jullundur Range, who was assassinated at Amritsar yesterday. The funeral will take place at Jullundur this morning. The state cabinet, which met in Chandigarh last night, also decided to give benefits like full salary to the widow of Mr Atwal till the age of retirement, as he would have received had he been alive.

An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that preliminary investigations have revealed that shots were fired at Mr Atwal from inside the Golden Temple. He said the post mortem report says that six shots were fired from an automatic rifle.

Sikh Priest Denies Arms Banned in Golden Temple

BK260355 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The head priest, Akal Takhat [highest seat of the Sikh] Jathedar Kirpal Singh, has denied reports that he had banned the carrying of firearms inside the premises of the Golden Temple. He described the reports as baseless.

External Affairs Minister on Foreign Policy Issues

BK260434 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has said that India stands for a freeze of nuclear arms and total disarmament. In an interview with PTI in Madras, he said India is also opposed to the escalation of tension in Europe and Central America created by the threatened deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles by the United States and the Soviet Union.

Replying to a question on a reported decision of the U.S. congressional committee approving an increase in Pakistan's military sales credit, Mr Rao said India is not in favor of increasing armaments and tension in the area.

Mr Rao is leaving for Colombo today on a 3-day official visit to Sri Lanka. He described the visit as a good-will mission.

Reportage on CPI-M Delegation's Visit to PRC

For PRC media coverage of the visit to Beijing by a delegation from the Communist Party of India-Marxist, led by General Secretary E.M.S. Namboodiripad, including meetings and talks with Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the PRC Central Committee, see the South Asia section of the 25 April China DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Talks With USSR on Barter Trade Begin 25 April

BK251128 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Negotiations for finalization of a new barter trade agreement between the Soviet Union and Pakistan began in Islamabad today. The talks, which were held in a cordial atmosphere, focused on the review of the barter trade already in existence between the two countries and the future course of trade relations. The two sides noted that the trade relations between the two countries had been satsifactory and enormous scope existed for augmenting the two-way turnover this year. Detailed discussions took place with regard to specific items which can be exchanged. A subcommittee was constituted to prepare an agreed text for the protocol likely to be signed morrow.

The Soviet delegation was led at the talks by the deputy minister for foreign trade, I.T. Grishin, while the federal commerce secretary, Izharul Haq, led the Pakistan delegation.

Yaqub Khan Returns From Talks in Geneva

BK251556 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan returned to Islamabad this evening after leading the country's delegation to the second round of indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva.

Ziaul Haq Activities in Sind Province

GF251714 Karachi DAWN in English 21 Apr 83 p 1

[Excerpts] The president Gen. Mohammad Ziaul Haq, said on return to Karachi on Wednesday from his four-day "meet-the-people" tour of the interior of Sind that he was highly gratified to note the identity of views and aspirations between the government and the people.

Arriving straight from Hyderabad to the state guest house — venue of the press conference — he said his "whirlwind" tour of Sukkur, Khairpur, Larkana, Nawabshah, Mirpurkhas, Tando Adam and Hyderabad had been successful beyond his expectations.

In reply to a question the president made it clear that till now he had no intention of forming any political party.

He evaded a question whether the new political structure which he proposed to announced by Aug. 14 this year would be an entity separate from the 1973 Constitution and on the lines of the former President Yahya's legal framework order. He merely said that the 1973 Constitution had not been abrogated but was being held in abeyance.

A correspondent said that the politicians were making statements, and the newspapers were publishing them, which sought to create despondency among the people. Should not such politicians be brought to book and should not the newspapers be prohibited from publishing such tendentious statements?

President Zia, while agreeing with the questioner, said he wished that the politicians exercised discretion and thought of national integrity and solidarity in their utterances. He said it was his government's policy to avoid harsh action. At the same time he criticised a political leader who, while touring Baluchistan, had said that not an iota of development had taken place in that province.

He said his government was conscious of the anti-social evils that have taken roots in the country's social order. He, however, hoped that they would be eradicated with the functioning of qazi courts and sharai courts and also with the enforcement of Nizam-i-Islam [Islamic system] in toto.

A correspondent drew the president's attention to the danger signal being given by the Indian Government leaders and the reports from across the border that Pakistan was seeking to buy the AWACS.

President Zia said he did not wish to comment on what other people said; however, he would make it clear that Pakistan, essentially a peace-loving country, was in right earnest to develop friendly relations with India.

The president said he was unaware of any troop movement on the border, adding that as far [as] the Pakistan Armed Forces was concerned it was detailed in the barracks doing their routine duty.

The president brushed aside the idea of buying AWACS and said their price was "too exorbitant.exorbitant."

Iraqis Bomb Pol-e Dokhtar District 25 April

LD251725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] The criminal forces of Saddam, who are unable to confront the forces of Islam, unable to weaken the iron will of the Muslim and heroic Iranian people, revengeful against Islam and the Muslims, this afternoon again committed a terrible crime and brought death and suffering to the Muslim and martyr-nurturing people of Pol-e Dokhtar in the Khorramabad region.

The Central News Unit reports that the mercenaries of Saddam, after receiving the superpowers' permission, at 1720 today bombed residential areas of Pol-e Dokhtar district with two bombers given to them by the East and the West, killing or wounding scores of our defenseless compatriots in that region. According to the reports we have received, by 1900 today 14 heroic people of Pol-e Dokhtar had been dragged out of the rubble. The relief teams are still trying to save the lives of other victims of this crime.Also, according to an IRNA report, this demonic attack destroyed at least 20 houses and a number of shops and cars. Additional reports will be brought to the notice of our dear compatriots.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,296

LD251748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,296 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. With greetings to the souls of all the martyrs of Islam, a summary of the military operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran is brought to your attention.

During the past 24 hours, exchanges of fire were in progress on the western fronts. Thanks to the military superiority of the defending forces of the Islamic Revolution, enemy artillery and armored units constantly were brought under the crushing fire of our artillery units. On those fronts, a lorry carrying personnel and a number of slit trenches and foxholes of the Saddamists were destroyed and at least 30 enemy personnel were killed.

During exchanges of fire in the Marivan sector, our Ground Forces' artillery fire pounded enemy positions and fortifications across the border, destroying several enemy infantry emplacements and killing a number of Iraqi soldiers.

On the southern fronts and in the Wal Fajr operations, the forces of Islam yesterday prevented any form of movement by the enemy with their heavy weapons fire, disrupted enemy supply operations and engineering activities, and foiled enemy attempts to infiltrate our positions on one of the fronts.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational theater yesterday, while defending their positions, our forces fired on enemy positons and assembly points to the west of the Arvand Rud, destroying six slit trenches and foxholes and observation posts. During the past 24 hours, Abadan was brought under enemy heavy weapons fire, which destroyed four shops and houses and damaged a hospital building.

The few enemy air activities in a number of southern and western border areas were neutralized yesterday by our antiaircraft fire.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Dezful Attack, Embassy Blast

GF241810 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 24 IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in a meeting with a group of people here today, referred to the recent Iraqi missile attacks on the southern city of Dezful as an extremely horrible terrorist act.

Continuing his remarks on the Iraqi attacks on Dezful which claimed lives of 60 and injured over 300 people, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that Dezful has been subjected to various attacks by the Iraqi forces, but inhabitants of the city have bravely resisted them and have not left the city. Those same people who are victims of the Iraqi attacks, are the Iranian Arabic speaking people, whom the Iraqi ruler claims to support, he added.

He further told the visitors that the Soviet Union was providing the Iraqi regime with missiles and the Munafiqeen (MKO) were, supporting Saddam Husayn's crimes, which was one of the filthiest deeds of reactionarism and imperialism of East and West.

The Majlis speaker criticised international organisations for remaining silent about the Iraqi missile attacks on Dezful and shelling of the Iranian offshore oil wells which resulted in a massive oil slick and contamination of Persian Gulf waters.

As for the recent blast in the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, the Majlis speaker said that people of Lebanon were no longer able to tolerate presence of the Zionist military forces in Lebanon and knew that the U.S. Government was backing them and as a result they carried out such an act. However, Zionist and imperialist controlled news agencies, who turn a blind eye to realities have blamed the incident on groups favouring the Islamic Revolution of Iran. The same applied to the recent bomb explosions in Iraq. The fact, Rafsanjani added, is that the people of Iraq, who have been imprisoned, tortured and executed en masse, are fed up with the Iraqi regime which instead of meeting needs of the Iraqi people, has engaged them in a war. Again these news agencies in a bid to portray the Islamic Republic of Iran as advocating terrorism, attributed it (bombing) to the Islamic Republic, he said.

Khamene'i Speaks on Anti-Iranian Propaganda

LD251201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Our correspondent reports that Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, today attended a morning service held by the Islamic Revolution

Guards Corps at Martyr Mottahari Center.

Referring to the baseless military propaganda spread by the enemies of the Islamic Revolution, he said: The two powers feel frustrated vis-a-vis the Islamic Revolution and its cohesion today. They have no idea what to do with this revolution and the Islamic Republic's order. Within this order, it is not only the government but the people who are fighting the enemy.

He added: Today the propaganda clamor raised by the enemies against the revolution and the Islamic Republic is louder than ever. In addition to their instigations in all fields, our enemies continue to issue propaganda against us through their imperialist-Zionist loudspeakers.

Commenting on the missile attack by the Zionist Iraqi regime on the Persian Gulf oil wells and the pollution of the region's environment, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: Not only has Saddam attacked and blown up our oil wells in the Persian Gulf, setting them on fire and thus causing pollution of the region's environment, but he is preventing the capping of the wells. Moreover, he has launched more attacks on these wells. In the meantime, the Western media and, regrettably, those of the Persian Gulf's Arab countries, by reporting totally untrue matters are presenting Saddam as a person wishing to prevent the expansion of the oil slick and to protect the environment.

The president then continued: In their propaganda in favor of the Iraqi regime, not a single note of truth can be found. Of course, there are times when some of those who create propaganda unwittingly report the facts. An example of this was a recent case when some European newspapers reported after visiting Iraq that Iraq's economic situation is extremely unsatisfactory and its social condition also has gone to pieces.

Referring to the foiling of military and political plots hatched by the enemies of the Islamic Republic, Khamene'i said: The enemies have taken advantage of the military invasion, and they plot to stage a coup d'etat, street riots by a handful of corrupt individuals, and sabotage by the hypocrites, the minigroups, and the infidels in order to deal a blow to this revolution. However, all these attempts have been foiled. Now our enemies are entertaining the idea of reviving infidelity and apathy in our society.

Free Voice of Iran on Kharrazi-Khamene'i Meeting

GF251620 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran Radio today reported that Kamal Kharrazi, head of the War Propaganda Council of the Islamic Republic, met with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i and reported to him about the work of the council. Even though the report by occupied Tehran Radio did not mention the subjects discussed, it seems that following the defeat of the Tehran regime in its recent propaganda uproar in connection with the Iran-Iraq war, Kharrazi was to discuss a change in propaganda tactics by the Tehran regime.

Reports coming from various cities say our country's youthsnow avoid going to the warfronts and the deaths of 14,000 Iranians in the operations called Wal Fajr have even caused rifts in the Revolution Guards Corps. Some very accurate reports indicate the lack of readiness by the guards to go to the fronts. In the past few days, European sources have reported that the wrong tactics of the guards and their lack of leading army commands was the cause of the latest defeat by the Tehran regime.

Prime Minister's Message on Tabas Anniversary

LD251812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] The camp by the eleven mobilization groups of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps held in Tabas on the occasion of the third anniversary of the disgraceful defeat of American forces in the Tabas desert concluded with a message from the prime minister.

Part of prime minister's message states: The archsatan, which had no idea of the ideological content of the beliefs of our nation, after seeing that all its conspiracies for the defeat of the revolution were crushed one after another as a result of the continuous presence of our people on the scene, removed the masks from the faces of its domestic agents and they too were disgraced in front of God and the people. The archsatan imposed an unjust war upon the fledgling Islamic Republic in order to defeat and bring down the order. The world-devouring America pinned a great deal of hope on the war that was started under critical conditions in order to break the Islamic Revolution and create a new gendarme for the region. However, the heroic deeds of the brave children of the Islamic nation to safeguard the gains of the revolution and our blood-stained Islamic homeland resulted in defeat and disgrace for the hopeless enemy, and once again imperialism was faced with a desperate dilemma.

The heroic and wronged people of Dezful performed epic deeds by enduring the savage crimes of the forces of Saddam and by refusing to leave the city under attack by modern and sophisticated weapons given to the mercenary regime of Iraq by the East and the West.

However, a new phenomenon in the unjust war imposed upon Iran by America through Iraq is the great world powers' unanimity in protecting a regime that does not refrain from committing any crime. This phenomenon has not come about suddenly, but confirms a divine movement that has emanated from Islamic Iran with a heavenly call of God is great, and there is no god but Allah, and which aims at liberating the deprived and oppressed people from the yoke of colonialism and dictatorship. It is precisely because of this fact that both Eastern and Western powers see it in their interests to maintain the Iraqi regime as a barrier to the expansion and spreading of the liberating call of the Islamic Revolution. However, due to continuous devotion and endeavor our nation has been able to overcome many major obstacles, including the usurping and dependent Pahlavi regime, and will be able to destroy the decadent regime of Saddam and continue its divine path.

Memorandum Signed With Turkey; Minister Comments

LD221322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The Iranian economic delegation, headed by Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi, returned from Turkey last night. During its 6-day visit to Turkey, the delegation had meetings and talks with officials of that country and signed a memorandum of understanding for trade exchanges, industrial, transportation, and communication affairs.

During an interview at Tehran airport, the minister of heavy industries told correspondents that his trip to Turkey was fruitful. He added: On the basis of a memorandum of understanding signed in Ankara between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey, the volume of trade between the two countries has been increased from an approximate level of $2 billion last year to $2.5 billion in 1983. On the basis of this memorandum, Turkey will export such goods as wheat, barley, meat, sugar, iron materials required by Iranian industries and building works, raw materials for textile industries, woven fabrics, fertilizers, machine tools and about 10-11,000 tractors to Iran.

The minister added: Another success achieved in this memorandum is the agreements reached in the transportation and communication fields between the two countries. According to these agreements, the volume of goods transported from Turkey to Iran by rail will increase by 1 million tons. It is worth mentioning that last year Turkish lorries transported 3 million tons of goods required by our country from Turkey to consumption centers. It has also been agreed to increase the number of telephone links between the two countries from the limited number of present transit lines to 16 direct lines in the current year.

According to IRNA, the memorandum of understanding signed between Iranian and Turkish officials yesterday includes cooperations between the two countries in trade, industry, technology, transportation, and communication.

After signing this memorandum, addressing the head of the Iranian economic delegation, Turkish Commerce Minister Kemal Canturk said: In the memorandum that has been signed to continue economic cooperation between the two countries, the volume of trade has been increased to $2.5 billion. Of this, Turkey exports $1.1 billion of various goods and raw materials to Iran, and in return Iran will export approximately $1.2 billion of oil to Turkey.

Canturk added: On the basis of this memorandum, Turkey will also have a foreign exchange earning of $200 million per year from the services of Turkish drivers transporting goods. This memorandum of understanding, signed as a barter trade between the two countries, includes such Turkish exports as 200 million tons of wheat, 200 million tons of barley, 30-40 thousand tons of meat, agricultural machinery, iron materials and similar goods; we will reach a final agreement in some of these fields soon.

Concerning industrial (?cooperation),the Turkish minister said: The memorandum of understanding has greatly emphasized the exchange of technology between the two countries. With the signing of this memorandum of understanding, which increases economic and trade cooperation between the two countries, a clear example of cooperation among the Muslim nations in the region has been created, and it can be a good model for the other Islamic countries.

UAE Paper: Iran Selling Oil Below OPEC Price

GF251510 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 24 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] London, KUNA — The London "Oil Imports" bulletin reports that the National Iranian Oil Company is offering to sell light Iranian oil at $26.5 per barrel.

Prosecutor General on Clergy in Judicial Branch

LD251227 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Interview with State Prosecutor General Sane'i by unidentified radio correspondent following his meeting with Khomeyni on 25 April; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Your Excellency State Prosecutor Sane'i: You were received by the imam of the nation.Would you please elaborate the points discussed at this meeting?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The first point brought to the attention of his excellency was a report on the situation of the judicial branch. I told his excellency that by the grace of God the judicial branch is in a better state today than ever and that it is improving daily. Our friends in the clergy have welcomed the idea [as heard] to such an extent that last Thursday 15 clergymen applied to the Supreme Judicial Council to [word indistinct] judicial process and to perform their duty. I informed his excellency that in some places the prosecutor and the head of the justice department are both clergymen and that they are acting in full coordination with lawyers and other judges at prosecutors' offices and courts. They have been able to work very well and have eliminated some of the grievances and complaints made against the judicial branch and inherited from the regime, the hated Pahlavi regime. Thank God, the judicial branch has been successful to date, and there is coordination between [word indistinct] lawyers and honorable judges. In Tehran itself, the deputy prosecutor is an honorable clergyman who has been successful in his work.

The next issue I brought to his excellency's attention was that, following the imam's order issued in one of his messages regarding the situation in prisons, the supervisory council has appointed 10 commissions and assigned them to study the situation in prisons and to take note of problems. God willing, we will try to resolve their problems to the best of our ability.

Interior Minister Inspects West Azarbayjan Province

LD181407 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Interior Minister Nateq-Nuri this morning arrived in Urumiyeh for an inspection tour of West Azerbayjan Province. Upon his arrival, he gave an

interview on the ministry's measures for greater control of the country's borders. He said a number of schemes had been worked out and that the Majlis had also approved a separate budget this year for that purpose.

He added that various border Gendarmerie that other companies were being organized.

Regarding the Islamic Republic's position on requests by members of minigroups to be given a safe conduct certificate by the government, the interior minister said: Islam welcomes anyone who repents; we are acting on the basis of this principle. In addition, the government will honor its promise.

Regarding the development of the purged areas in Western Azarbayjan and the welfare of the inhabitants, the interior minister said that certain proposals had been put forward in this regard by the governor-general of West Azarbayjan. He said: We hope that, as in the past, greater attention will be devoted to these areas and that greater use will be made of the development budget for the welfare of the inhabitants, particularly the villages that have been oppressed by the minigroups for more than 3 years.

The interior minister also reviewed the problems of Western Azarbayjan with provincial officials at two separate meetings this morning.

He later watched a parade by the Armed Forces and the security forces on the occasion of Army Day.

Speaks on U.S.'Plots'

GF181628 Tehran IRNA in English 1611 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Urumiyeh, April, 18 IRNA — Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri who is currently visiting West Azarbayjan, attended a parade of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces here today on the occasion of the Armed Forces Day.

Nateq-Nuri, in a brief speech delivered on this occasion pointed out the evil plots of the U.S. before and after the victory of the Islamic Revolution. He said that the U.S. had for fifty years in the ex-shah's regime literally made investments in the Armed Forces and placed a great deal of hope upon them. But, he said, its (U.S.) hopes were shattered by the Armed Forces and the peoples unity. The U.S., he said, in order to achieve its ill designs illegally aided the parties engaged in subversive plots against the Islamic Republic, including the caching of arms and ammunition.

The U.S., he said, made plots and even deluded itself into believing that in Kordestan Province, west Iranian autonomous state could be established. Nateq-Nuri continuing said that to achieve this the U.S. sought to create a tribal war and assign another Israel there side by side Iran. [as received] Millions of dollars were invested in the doomed plot, he added, further saying that when the disturbance broke out in Kordestan Province, the IRGC [Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps] members and the Armed Forces, side by side each other entered the scene and quelled all U.S. plots.

Clandestine Radios on Situation in Kordestan

Guards' Defeat Cited

GF171720 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 17 Apr 83

[Text] Clashes between Kurdish strugglers and Khomeyni's guards in the Kurdish region rage on and reliable sources have reported that the spring offensive by the forces of Khomeyni against the armed Kurdish fighters have been defeated.

In recent days, the Kurdish fighters have been purging the (Pareh Bala) and (Pareh Pa'in) villages and areas around Baneh and Sar Dasht and have captued dozens of guards. Currently, the Baneh-Sar Dasht road is under the control of the combative Kurdish forces.

A spokesman for the Kurdish fighters announced that the arrest or surrender of Kurdish fighters, repeatedly reported on the radio by the regime of Khomeyni, is baseless and a lie. He added: In many regions, the guards have fled or have been killed or captured by the armed fighters. Khomeyni's regime has so far tried a number of desperate attacks against regions under the control of the armed Kurdish fighters but all these attacks have been defeated with the guards being forced to retreat or flee, having suffered many dead or wounded.

Meanwhile, the impostor Sanandaj deputy in the contrived Majlis of mullahs in a preagenda speech today confessed that the forces of Khomeyni's regime have received heavy blows in the Kurdish regions and have lost dozens in the (Keshmgir) region of Kordestan.

Casualties Reported

GF180716 (Clandestine) Seda-ye Iran in Persian 1930 GMT 17 Apr 83

[Text] The Iranian revolution guards have reported that in the (Kur-e Bala) and (Kur-e Payin) regions of Kordestan 14 Kurdish fighters were killed in clashes with the guards and 21 were captured. They said that the mopping up operations are continuing in the region. However, Kurdish sources have reported that 24 revolution guards were killed.

Fighting Detailed

GF201844 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT20 Apr 83

[Text] Eleven guards of the regime were annihilated in Kordestan. According to our correspondent, in a 4-hour clash which started at 0200 on 16 April between a 100-strong column of guards and the Kurdish fighters, 11 guards were killed and another 15 wounded. The guards wanted to capture the village of (Qaliyeh) and according to the same report, the regime's guards were finally forced to retreat.

In another clash near Hamran base, a personnel carrier of the guards was destroyed and three of its occupants were annihilated. An explosion of an antipersonnel mine planted in the same base

deviate from the path of the revolution. Today, even after our leaders' arrest, our policy of support for the Islamic Revolution has not changed.

You are also accused of being aligned with Soviet policy.

We are not opposed to the imam's watchword "Neither East nor West," and we interpret it as a desire to maintain the country's independence in decisionmaking. However, that does not mean that we must not distinguish our enemies from our friends, those who plot against the revolution and those who, like the Soviets, have always supported it. Those who refuse to accept that distinction are implementing, whether they like it or not, the policy of negative balance followed by Mossadeq in the 50's.

How do you reconcile Marxism and the Islamic religion?

We draw a clear distinction between the rightwing clergy opposed to the revolution and revolutionary Islam. We have differences with the latter which, in our opinion, are not essential, but we have also and especially essential convergences on the problems concerning the regime's future. We believe coexistence with revolutionary Islam is possible and can last for many years. It is possible to reach an agreement on a minimum program, precisely on the principles laid down by the Islamic Constitution. It is true that the latter contains many weaknesses and gaps, but we accept it just as it stands, and we do not demand its repeal. On the other hand, our opponents — the fundamentalist clergy, the supporters of a rightwing policy, and those who are called the hojjati (an anticommunist parliamentary pressure group) — call it into question on the pretext that it is not in keeping with Islam, even though it was drafted by an assembly of respected religious dignitaries.